

SECRET

9-1-63

MEMORANDUM FOR: Director, National Reconnaissance Office

SUBJECT: Special Procedures for Satellite Reconnaissance Missions

1. After three successive failures, it is gratifying that the most recent CORONA photographic reconnaissance mission was successfully carried out and high quality photographic material was obtained. The importance of this type of intelligence to our National security cannot be over-emphasized and it is essential that there be no repetition of the hiatus in this type of coverage such as has existed for the past three months.

2. Prior to this last successful CORONA launch, a number of measures were instituted to improve the quality control of all aspects of this particular operation. In view of the overriding importance of this type of intelligence, I have discussed this matter with [redacted], and we agree that the NRO should continue to employ these special measures on forthcoming flights in order to insure that every possibility of failure is minimized.

John A. McCone
John A. McCone
Director

cc: Deputy Secretary of Defense

O/DDR/HScoville:mh (8 Apr 63)

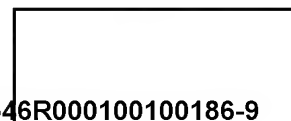
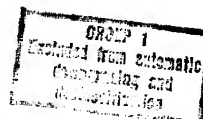
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